

*Cirolana feasting on the Edible Crab.*—Prof. LEIDY stated that on last Saturday, having occasion to go to Beach Haven, N. J. during a leisure half hour stroll along shore, he noticed, here and there a dead crab, *Callinectes hastatus*, lying on the sand, near the last high tide mark. The crabs observed happened to be all females and they appeared to have died recently as some were quite fresh and showed no signs of decomposition. Others, broken open by removing the carapace, were found to have the body cavity swarming with a living isopod, the *Cirolana concharum*, which had preyed upon the organs and were variously colored by the food with which they were gorged. From a single crab there were taken 108 of the *Cirolana* ranging from 15 to 22 mm. in length by 5 to 7 mm. in breadth.

The isopod is grayish translucent above and whitish translucent beneath, and centrally variously colored, brown, black, red or yellow, from the food contents. The dorsal plates are minutely dotted, black or brown, in bands. The eyes are triangular with rounded angles, and black. The antennae are nearly double the length of the antennules. The mandibles are furnished with a strong, brown, tricuspid molar. The caudal plate or telson is triangular with a blunt, slightly emarginate apex and with a pair of spines each side of the latter. The isopod has been observed by Stimpson at Charleston, S. C. and by Harger at Vineyard Sound, Mass., but has not previously been reported from the coast of New Jersey. Three isolated specimens of the same were picked up on the shore of Beach Haven, the last summer.

*On Bopyrus palaemoneticola.*—Prof. Leidy also presented numerous specimens of the prawn, *Palaemonetes vulgaris*, infested with the parasite, *Bopyrus palaemoneticola*, obtained at Beach Haven, N. J. From about two quarts of the prawn, caught for fish-bait, upwards of fifty contained the *Bopyrus*.

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## FEBRUARY 28.

The President, Dr. LEIDY, in the chair.

Twenty-five persons present.

The death of James S. Mason, a member, was announced.

*Note on Lepas fascicularis.*—Prof. LEIDY remarked that while stopping at Beach Haven, N. J., the last summer he had observed that from time to time the debris thrown on shore would differ according to the direction of the wind. On one occasion a strong wind from the north east up a considerable quantity of material consisting of fragments of wood, grass, fucus, etc., to most of which was attached a profusion of goose-barnacles, *Lepas fascicularis*. Among the materials observed were apples and cranberries, which also had bundles of barnacles attached, and as the fruit was not decomposed, it appar-

ently indicated a rapid development and growth of the animal. Portions of apples were exhibited with dense hemispherical groups of attached barnacles an inch and a half in diameter with the barnacles from 2 to 3 lines long, and several cranberries with bunches in which the barnacles are from 2 to 6 lines long.

*Reputed Tape-worm in a Cucumber.*—Prof. LEIDY stated that several years ago, his colleague in the University, Prof. Wm. Goodell, submitted to his examination a tape-worm, which he received from a correspondent, with the label “From the middle of a cucumber preserved in brine. S. E. Robinson, West Union, Iowa, May 29, 1876.” The specimen appears to be complete and in its present condition, preserved in alcohol, is about eight inches long. The head is large, spheroid, provided with four, small, equi-distant hemispherical bothria, and surmounted by a prominent crown with a double circle of strong hooks. The neck is a slight constriction whence the body rapidly widens and again tapers behind. The anterior segments are transversely linear with a gradually increasing length and more acute and prominent lateral ends; the middle segments are about twice the breadth of the length and slightly companulate; and the posterior segments are proportionately longer and narrower. In the latter, the uterus is distended with eggs only at their anterior portion.

The hooks are partially lost on one side of the crown; and it is estimated that there were about 40 or more.

The head is .875 mm. broad; the crown of hooks .625 mm.; the neck .8 mm.; at the middle of the body six segments together are 1 cm. long and 3.5 mm. wide; the terminal segments are about 4 mm. long and 2.5 mm. wide. The eggs measure from .032 to .036 mm.

While it cannot be admitted that the worm belonged to the cucumber, nor is it clear how it reached this position, it is a question as to the species. It bears a near resemblance to the *Taenia crassicollis* of the Cat, but is not more than half the size of this as it ordinarily occurs.

In comparison with a complete specimen of the latter, six inches in length in the contracted condition as preserved in alcohol, we find the following measurements.

	<i>T.</i> of the cucumber	<i>T. crassicollis.</i>
Breadth of head - - -	.875 mm.	1.875 mm.
Breadth of crown of hooks - - -	.625 “	1. “
Breadth of neck - - -	.8 “	1.25 “
Breadth of middle segments - - -	3.5 “	6 to 8 “
Length of middle segments - - -	1.66 “	1. “
Breadth of terminal segments - - -	2.5 “	3.5 “
Length of terminal segments - - -	4. “	5. “

*Diamonds in Meteorites.*—Professor CARVILL LEWIS exhibited a small fragment of a meteorite which had fallen in the district of Krasnoslobodsk, Government of Penza, Siberia, on September 4, 1886,